THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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Saint Leo ROTC Changes Command

BY PATRICIA POTHIER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

This spring, Saint Leo University's Army ROTC program will be undergoing a change of command, continuing the tradition of growth and excellence that is characteristic of the Army core values. Captain Bryan Dunker will be relieving Major Stephen Wills as the head of the ROTC program. "I hope to take the outstanding ROTC program that Major Wills created in only three years and build from that strong foundation," Dunker said.

Most positions in the Army are on a rotational basis of two to four years.
"My time is up, it's just that simple," said Wills.

As his rotation is ending, his feeling is that he was fortunate to be afforded such a great opportunity to serve here at Saint Leo.

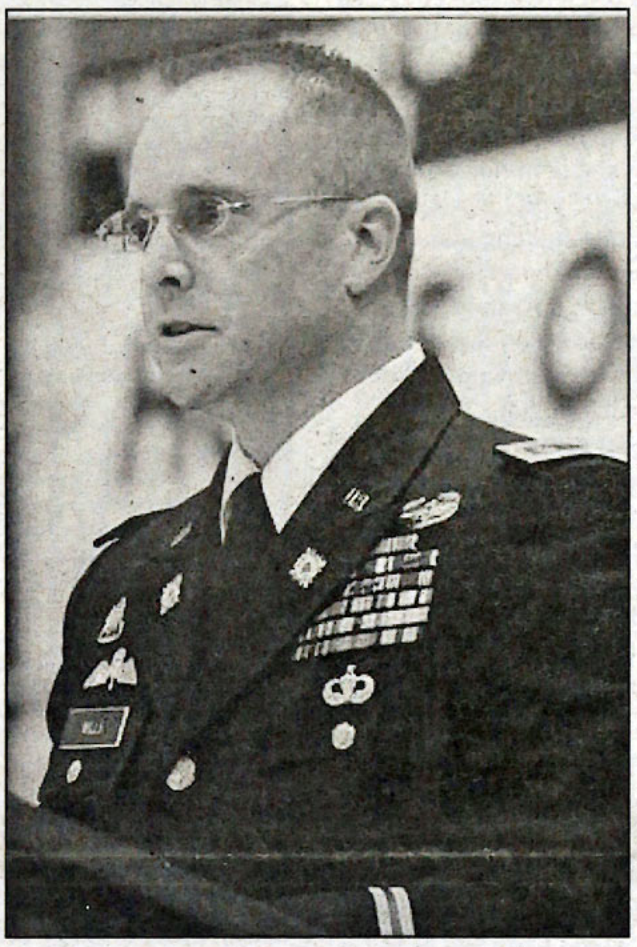
"It's been a wonderful ride and I will truly miss being a member of the team," said Wills. While it is a bittersweet departure, he looks forward to seeing the program grow even more under the leadership of Dunker.

Dunker, originally from Milwaukee, WI, attended Lehigh University to earn a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He commissioned in the US Army as an Engineer Officer and served ten years prior to arriving at Saint Leo. His duty assignments have included Germany, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee, with deployments to Kosovo and Iraq. "I bring a combat arms and intense operational background to the table, which will help add to the field training events," Dunker said.

The Saint Leo ROTC program began three years ago with three cadets, all freshmen, no full time Cadre, and facilities that were in need of some major attention. The man charged with reviving the program was then Captain Wills. "I initially assessed the state of the program and began focusing on the training of the current cadets and growth of the program and both have paid dividends," Wills said.

In the course of his three years, Wills, now a Major, expanded the program to over 40 cadets, 19 of which are on a full scholarship, while nine others are also receiving benefits from the US Army as they pursue their education.

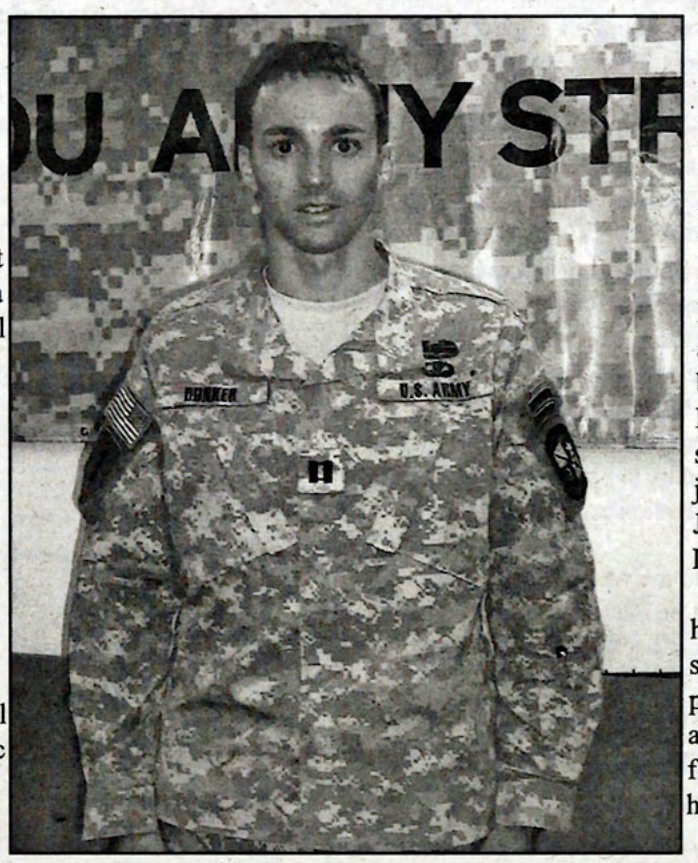
With the help of Dr. David Persky, Associate Dean for the School of Continuing Education, Wills revitalized the program, which this spring will commission seven Second Lieutenants at commencement on Apr. 30, the first true class of ROTC Cadets from Saint Leo.



Major Wills

Photo by Patricia Pothier

Wills feels that there is a substantial amount of interest due to the success of the ROTC program, and the wonderful academic setting and support of the university.



Captain Dunker

Photo by Patricia Pothier

"The foundation has been built and I'm confident that the ROTC program will continue to flourish with the support of the university and the leadership of my replacement, Captain Bryan Dunker," Wills said.

Wills isn't sure where his next stop will be but he is certain that it will not be as fun as his time here was. The feeling is mutual for his cadets who will surely never forget the amount of time and effort he put into the program. "Major Wills basically built our program. We will miss him because he was a great influence and role model for us. It will be very strange without him here, but no matter where he goes, he will always be a Lion," said junior Jeremiah LaPointe.

Wills had some parting advice for hiscadets, "I hope that I have provided you with the leadership and mentorship that you deserve and have served as a positive role model.
I have enjoyed my position here more than you will ever know and I look forward to seeing you continue to grow into the type of leaders that our Army needs."

The profession his cadets are about to enter is very demanding, and he hopes that he has instilled in them the understanding that they are expected to lead by example and that there are no excuses for substandard performance. "Only a select few will have the luxury of leading the Army's most precious assets, our soldiers. The things you will encounter will be difficult and challenging, but also rewarding. You know what to do, trust yourself and make the right decision, regardless if it's popular, you will be required to make difficult decisions, that's what leaders do," Wills said.

Wills' parting words reflect Dunker's vision for the future of the program. In this time of transition he expects this to go rather smoothly. "In the Army, we are accustomed to rotating duty assignments and positions every three years. The fact that Major Wills and I have some overlap here at Saint Leo will make for an almost seamless transition," he said.

"We are all looking forward to the years ahead with Captain Dunker. I think he will do a great job carrying on and expanding the program just like Major Wills has done. He is a great runner and he sets the standard at P.T." said freshman Chris Swonger.

Dunker doesn't anticipate any major changes, but to expand the program he does hope to bring in a Non-Commissioned Officer as an additional Cadre member to help effectively lead and manage.

In terms of recruitment Dunker feels that the most effective recruiters are the cadets themselves. "Their campus interaction helps create awareness and communicates a very accurate picture of the program." He plans to continue their development and add campus events to educate interested prospective recruits.

If anyone is interested in the program and would like to speak to either Major Wills or Captain Dunker, the ROTC department is located next to Saint Edward Hall and Major Wills can be reached at Stephen.Wills@saintleo.edu.

Opinions

Don't break down over break; break through

BY DANA JENNINGS
Lions' Pride Opinion Editor

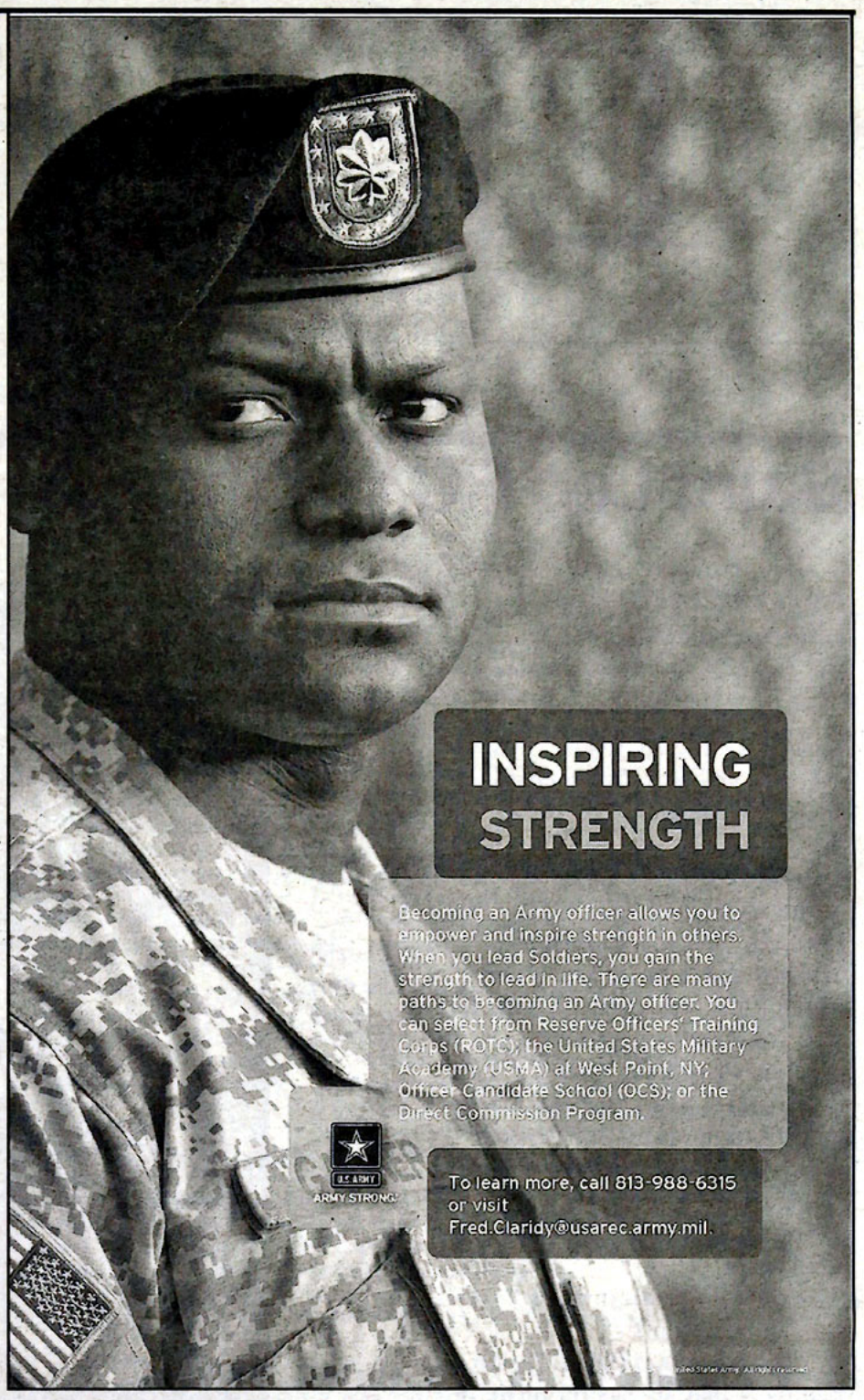
Spring Break is finally here, and now we look forward to days on the beach or days with loved ones. Students have been coming up with elaborate ways to describe the past couple of weeks. "A slowly grinding, gnashing blender and meat grinder combination designed to pull the final bits of any sanity and intellect we have left" was clearly my favorite of the week.

In the limp towards the break, students have been staying up late in the library, pouring over books, and oftentimes simply doing nothing while feeling the impending doom looming. It is incredible how many times you can hear how the travesty of the water outage has affected our student body: there was no coffee to be had on campus for nearly a week! Fisticuffs ensued in the cafeteria and riots were narrowly avoided in the library, which is a haven for coffee lovers and addicts.

Over break students have grandiose plans to have the most epic and movie-worthy trip that will be talked about in legend. Students rarely care to hear anything about how being careful will reap benefits that cannot be seen and cannot be calculated how important they are. Students want to hear about SPF 4, frozen drinks, and how great the time will be.

What is often overlooked is that any break where young adults are giving freedom from classes and responsibility results in at least one student getting into a situation in which he or she is in hot water. Don't let this be you. No one wants to be this student, standing in front of a judicial board or worse, trying to explain how the Jet Ski ended upside down on top of the library roof with a blowup doll duct taped to the handlebars.

The moral of the story is that students need to actually heed the advice and BE SAFE and responsible. Saint Leo takes great pride in the students that attend and have attended. The school wants to make sure that every student returns after a well-deserved break.



DJ's Musings

Things I want to yell about

BY DANA JENNINGS
Lions' Pride Opinion Editor

The Miami Heat reportedly cried after their loss to the Chicago Bulls. Their coach said this to iterate to the Miami fans that the Heat players actually do care about their performances during the regular season.

It's hard to believe that men who are playing a game for millions of dollars are getting teary eyed over a loss in the beginning of March. On the other hand, at least it's a better attitude about losing than Lebron James had when he stormed off of the court pouting in the Conference Finals.

The gas pumps are rolling over at alarming rates and seem to have no ceiling in sight. This is all due to the turmoil in the Middle East that is more about rights and human dignity than about any barrel of crude.

Then again, everything in the Middle East is about oil, regardless of its origination. There is nothing that occurs in that region of the world that doesn't involve OPEC, and anything that registers as a disturbance gives the oil executives the reasoning they need to fill their coffers.

When Spring Break comes around, every student will be thoroughly tired of hearing about safety over the break and being a responsible individual. Invariably there will be students who find themselves in a situation ending in a jail cell, hospital, or awkward situation explaining their actions.

Word to the wise: There's always one. Don't be that one. Use common sense and get back to campus safe, with no regrets, and with no consequences that don't go away no matter how much antibiotics you use.

March Madness begins with Selection Sunday, which is an overhyped and over-indulged event that simply states who is playing who and when. That being said, I will be watching avidly and filling in my bracket as soon as possible.

I challenge everyone and anyone to fill in a bracket and slip it under my door by the first game on Mar. 15. Anyone who's bracket is better than mine at the end of the tourney will win a prize, and the best bracket will win a grand prize.

Disclaimer: remember that I am a college student, and therefore cannot afford to award a trip to Bermuda. I can only guarantee that my derriere will be firmly planted on the sofa over spring break to watch the games and yell at the T.V.

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Fire Marshall assures safety for all students

BY TARA McLOUGHLIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, Kerry Barnett, the Fire Marshall for the town of Saint Leo, followed up with his second fire inspection for the year.

Barnett, who is newly hired by the university, has been here since June of 2010, though his inspections did not start until late December of 2010. Barnett said that the town of Saint Leo hadn't been inspected in about 15 years. When asked if the new fire inspection policy had any correlation between the excessive damage in the apartments, he replied by saying that the fire inspections were a completely different matter.

"They had nothing to do with each other. Inspectors were originally only hired to inspect buildings that had just been built. When they got ready to build the business building, they needed someone to look over the plans. This opened the door for all buildings in their township to be inspected," said Barnett.

During his first visit in December, he had started the policy of bringing a security guard along with him to each building and individual room.

"I bring security with me wherever I go so that this way nobody can come back and say that some personal effect is missing. I understand that I am invading someones personal space, and I do not want to make it any more difficult than it already is," said Barnett.

The inspection process covers areas including the common rooms, study rooms, and laundry rooms. Barnett is responsible for making sure that all emergency lights, exit signs, sprinklers, fire extinguishers and fire alarms are functioning properly. The emergency exit signs and fire extinguishers are one of the most important parts of the inspection process. Students who are caught tampering with these items can be in a lot of trouble.

"If students tamper with exit signs or fire extinguishers, I have the power to assess that charge to the State Attorney. The student will then be prosecuted and charged with a felony as high as a misdemeanor," said Barnett.

In the dorms, Barnett looks specifically for safety violations such as extension cords, non-protective multi-plug adapters, noncertified fire extinguishers, decorative lighting, and the use of candles. Smoke detectors and sprinklers also need to be checked as well. If they are covered or blocked in any way, students will be instructed to remove the obstructions immediately.

Barnett had stressed that safety goes hand in hand with cleanliness.

"My job is to make sure the room is somewhat organized, but I have found that this can be a difficult task. Most people wouldn't believe that I have been to many rooms where the door cannot be fully opened," said Barnett.

He explains that the girls are in fact much worse than the boys. Although the boys may often use the decorative lighting, it is the girls who cannot stay away from the big scented candles.

When the first inspection had taken place the students were told which items were in violation of fire safety. They were also offered safety alternatives as well. This time, however, Barnett's goal was to follow up on the December inspections to make sure that students have done away with such items.

"Students were given 60 days to clear things out. If they did not do this by the time of the follow up inspection they were singled out individually based on their room number. A report is then written, sent to maintenance, and given to the Resident Assistant of the floor to make sure all violations are taken care of," said Barnett.

On Tuesday, when he returned to the university to reinspect the buildings and or dorm rooms, he found that certain items were still not improved.

"There should be a door diagram on every student's door. However, the school is still in the process of ordering them, said Barnett.

"I have also been seeing that the stairwell doors in many of the apartments have been held open. These doors are supposed to be closed at all times. If not, the smoke and flame can produce a tunnel effect throughout the entire building."

Regardless of this, he feels that the other areas have been improved since last semester. Although Barnett's visit is over for now, he still warns all students to be careful about how they assemble their living areas each year. The University is billed by the town of Saint Leo with each visit to the school for another inspection. Barnett wishes to thank both the students and faculty of Saint Leo for their cooperation throughout the duration of the inspection process.

From Libya to Leo: a domino effect

BY AMANDA BUTLER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

After weeks of unrest, Libya follows the actions of its neighbors, Tunisia and Egypt, in sparking a nationwide revolt of their leader, calling for a new regime to take power.

Libyan dissident Najla Aburrahman pleaded to the ears and eyes of people in Western media.

"If the Libyan protesters are ignored, the fear is that Qadaffi will be able to seal the country off from foreign observers, and ruthlessly crush any uprising before it even has a chance to begin," said Aburrahman, according to the political news blog *Mother Jones*.

It appears that Aburrahman's predictions may be coming true. Colonel Muammar Qadaffi, Libya's leader for the last four decades, is described as cunning, repressive, and eccentric. Qadaffi has a camaraderie with Cuba's Fidel Castro and has threatened to ban any sort of school and monetary system.

Libya's media holds no freedom, and many of the citizens of the country are under 18 years of age. Discussing national policies with a foreigner can lead a citizen to a sentence of three years in prison.

The uprising started due to pro-democracy inspirations. Protesters planned Thursday, Feb. 17 as a "day of rage" according to news blog *Mother Jones*. Many protesters were, and continue to be, massacred, with the total death count thus far as over 1,000. Libyan soldiers who refused to shoot at protesters have been burned alive. As of Feb. 22, reports arose that Libyans already experienced shortages in rice, flour, sugar, and oil.

A peek into Qadaffi's political personality is chilling. His regime conducted public hangings about 30 years ago; he showed up to an interview last week holding a superfluous umbrella; and he promised his people that many crimes are punishable by death. He has ordered soldiers to murder his own people. Many troops have opened fire on crowds of protesters, and videos of such events have been leaked onto the Internet. Many media outlets have been shut down in an effort to contain and silence the violence.

Though Egypt and Tunisia have their own problems with their respective presidents, Michael Totten from *The New Republic*, a political news blog, saw a difference with Libya's president.

"…The difference between [Egypt and Tunisia] and Libya is that the formers aren't cowering in fear when mentioning their leader's name," said Totten.

What does the United States have to say about this? President Obama stated his position on the issue in Libya on Thursday, Feb. 23: "Protecting American citizens in Libya is my highest priority."

Obama sent Secretary of State Hilary Clinton to the United Nations to discuss the issue with foreign allies. The safety of American reporters is at risk as well; many Western reporters have entered the country illegally, which is cause for arrest under the charge of Al Qaida-collaborators. American journalists may choose the option of not leaving, and a task force will aid them to protect their security.

How does this situation affect not only Saint Leo Students, but the whole of America's student population? As of Feb. 23, Qaddafi has ordered the destruction of oil facilities. In shorter terms, the foreign uproar will mostly affect Americans in their wallets, as oil prices are rumored to rise in the near future. Beginning at five cents a month by the start of 2012, the ultimate goal of the rumored solution would be a $1 gas tax, according to *Mother Jones*. The money would be used to pay off the national debt. Students already struggling with finances will face an even greater struggle, which mainly includes commuters from every education level.

Changes are on the horizon; these changes affect many lives and wallets, foreign or otherwise. The only certainty to come out of Libya is that the situation is far from over.

Students receive hands-on diplomatic training

BY PIA SOESEMANN
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

Could the Six-Day War of 1967 have been fought in three? Is it possible that the Yugoslavia breakup could have ended with a union between Kosovo and Bosnia-Herzegovina? Even though history tells us otherwise, everything is possible at PUNC – The Pennsylvania State Model United Nations Conference, hosted by Penn State University.

After sending a successful delegation to PUNC for the first time in 2010, Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, sent eight delegates to compete at PUNC IV February 24-27.

Penn State has organized the simulation since 2008 and is one of the newest conferences in the Model UN circuits. In small committees consisting of eight to 15 people, delegates from all schools work together or against each other to solve a crisis – either a current one like the protests in the Middle East or a historical one such as the Breakup of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. For four days, communiqués, resolutions and press releases are written, policies passed, spies denounced and even assassinations are attempted. Committees spend up to seven hours in session each day which can be challenging at times but simulates very accurately how demanding the work and pressure is in real life.

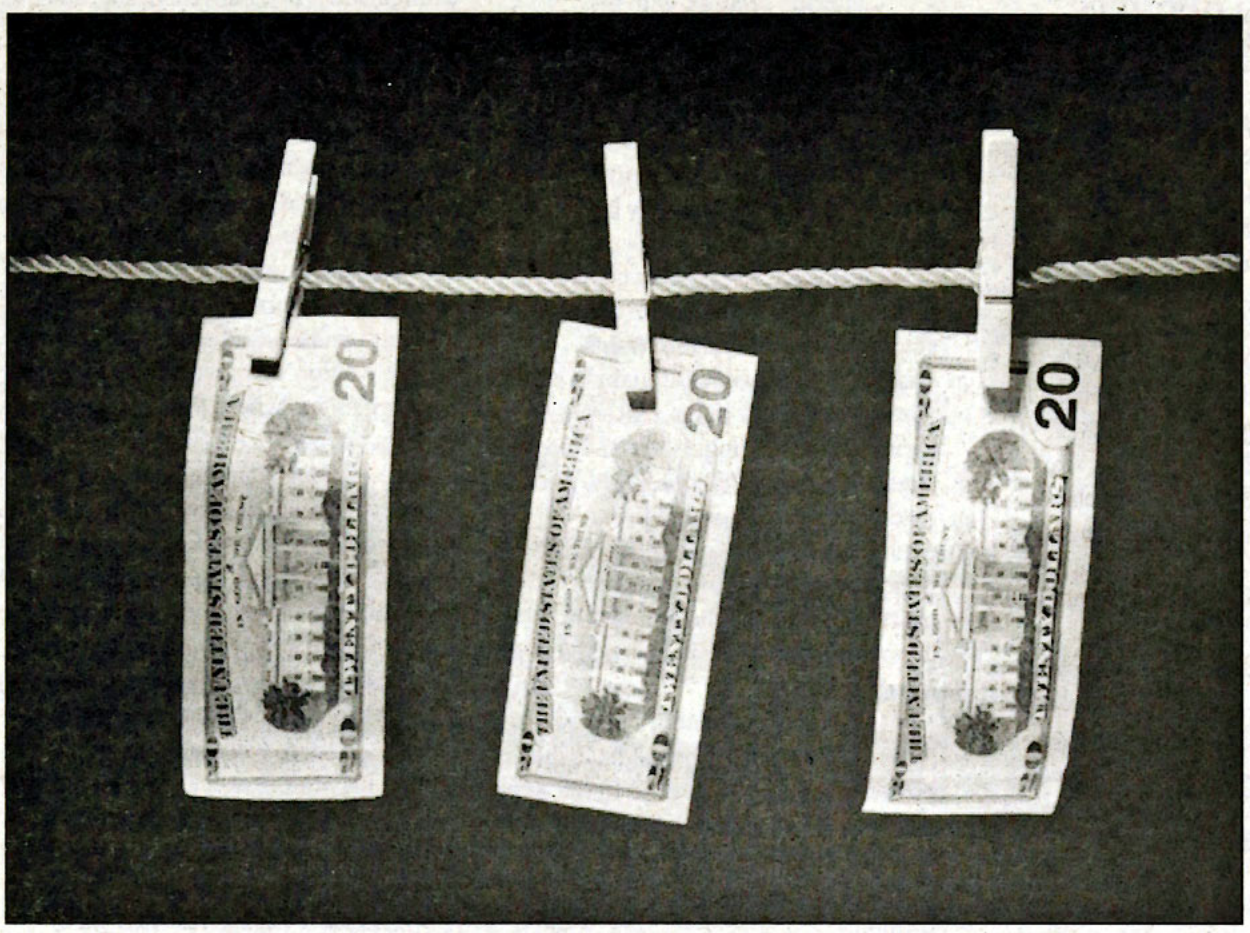
The committees this year were the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, with Collin Good as Jim Risch and Clarissa O'Connell as Barbara Boxer; the Yugoslavia Breakup with Nicole Sirotaplotnikov and Daniel White representing Kosovo and Bosnia-Herzegovina; the United Nations Security Council, in which Eric Singer pursued the interests of Russia and Armando Grundy-Gomes those of Portugal; and finally the Six-Day War with Nick Klein as Egyptian General Abdel Hakim Amer and Pia Sösemann as Jordan's Prime Minister Saad Juma.

Despite this being the first time for most of the Saint Leo delegation to participate in Model UN, their training paid off, winning three awards for the group. In the closing ceremony, Good and Sirotaplotnikov received awards for Outstanding Delegate in their respective committees, along with an honorable mention for Klein. Overall winner of the conference was Cornell University, whose delegates were able to claim four awards.

After two successful trips to PUNC, Saint Leo delegates look to create a club to train new delegates and participate across the nation. The delegation plans to attend conferences at Yale and Georgetown Universities in the coming years.

Residence Life charges rise

BY TARA MCLOUGHLIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer



When damaging school property, are students leaving their cash to "hang out to dry"? Courtesy of Microsoft Office

Increased financial charges placed on student bills have returning students asking questions.

Residence Life charged a total of $3,799 to all the apartments combined for any damage done to the common areas in Fall 2010. This is an increase from the charges of the previous year's total of $1,293.

According to Sean VanGuilder, Associate Director of Residence Life, students were specifically charged for vandalism or damage to emergency lights, exit signs being ripped down, holes in the wall, trash bags being left in non-appropriate areas, and any bodily fluid cleanup such as vomit in the hallway, and feces in the shower.

Last semester, apartment three had the highest amount charged, with damages totaling $1,447, followed by apartment four with $1,317, apartment one with $710, and lastly, apartment two with $325 charged. Residents of apartment three were charged heavily for the excessive amount of trash bags being left in non-trash containers. When asked how much money it costs to clean up the garbage within the apartment and outside by the trash cans, VanGuilder replied by saying that students are charged $25 per kitchen and or large garbage bag of trash.

The Residence Life charges are configured at the end of each semester. Residence life bases their charges off of a damage list that can be found in the Room Condition Report. The prices can be found next to the damages on the list. Any vandalism and or damage that are not listed on RCR are priced according to the bill that the Plant Operations from material send to the school. The charges are then put into a specific damage/vandalism account that pays off the damages.

The Residence Life policy was created years ago to guarantee that any damage caused by students to the University was fully paid. According to VanGuilder, common damage charges have been in place since he had been a student at Saint Leo in 2002. However, the policy for trash bags was created more recently.

"Trash bags [policy] came into effect following spring of 2009 due to excessive amounts of trash being left in rooms, hallways, exit doors, and non-dumpsters that semester, and resulted in costs Sodexo incurred just to remove trash from buildings," said VanGuilder.

Although the Residence Life policy has been in effect for quite some time now, many students are not aware of it. This lack of awareness has affected more than just bank accounts.

"I went to go add/drop a class and my academic advisor told me I wasn't able to do this because I had a hold on my account from the previous semester. It made me so mad because I had no idea that these charges even existed," said sophomore Andy Pelletier, a resident of apartment one.

Those who were not aware of the charges were angered because they felt that the charges were unfair.

"I did not understand why I had been charged for the poor behavior of others. I feel that Residence Life should have made more of an effort to make students aware of this issue. If they did this it would help diffuse the problem and lessen the charge," said sophomore Dianne Dickenson of apartment three.

Despite this, VanGuilder states that residents are notified about these charges prior to the start of the next semester.

"An email is sent through news bytes prior to charges taking place and specifically lists the types of charges that will be included and dates I will be charging," said VanGuilder. Now that students are aware of what they are being charged for specifically, they will know what to avoid. When asked what students can do to help make sure they are not charged, VanGuilder responded by saying that they can inform anyone they see causing the damage or leaving the trash in areas other than the dumpster.

"Students are more likely to listen or respect peers trying to take care of their area," said VanGuilder.

VanGuilder warns that if the student is unwilling to listen to the advice of their peers, the person witnessing these actions should make sure to identify the student responsible to Residence Life.

"If a student causing damage is able to be identified and verified, I will directly charge that student the entire cost and not share with the building, as well as potentially bring up Code of Conduct Charges if necessary."

"More than passive receptacles for information"

Callie Crossley speaks at Saint Leo

BY LINDSAY RENNER
Lions' Pride Advertising Editor

The modern individual is constantly flooded with a stream of information that appears to come from all sides. In an age of ever-present information, how is one to distinguish fact from fiction, and more importantly, form a solid opinion based off what is presented? Callie Crossley addressed this and other topics during her presentation on media literacy at Saint Leo on Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Crossley came to campus as someone more than qualified to present on the meaning of media literacy and its place in the present day. Being a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, Crossley travels about the country delivering lectures on many aspects of the media at various campuses. She previously worked as a producer for the ABC news program 20/20, and currently serves as the Program Manager for the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. Crossley is also the recipient of several major awards, including an Emmy Award. As Crossley presents it, media literacy is a far cry from just being able to read what is presented to someone.

"When we talk about literacy, we think 'what does that mean?'... Literacy is the ability to read and comprehend information," said Crossley.

Crossley contends that media literacy involves actively engaging in the media presented, and analyzing the facts before making a judgment on what is correct.

"Media consumption may seem like a passive process, but it is really a dynamic experience that helps us define our values," said Crossley.

The longevity of her career truly shone in this presentation, as evidenced by the sheer wealth of examples presented throughout the course of the lecture and subsequent discussion with the audience. Among the most important points Crossley made, she indicated the importance of being accepting of new ways to perceive a piece of information.

"If you are so certain that you are in the right, you should not be threatened by someone with an alternate point of view," said Crossley.

In addition to teaching the audience the basics of media literacy and how to practice it, Crossley presented the audience with tips on how to best implement these practices into daily life. Because the current media is decentralized, or based in multiple platforms, Crossley suggested several helpful points.

"We all have to develop our skills to be fact checkers", said Crossley.

She offered these tips: Determine what sources are most reliable, figure out both the credible individual and institutional sources for media, inquire as to the source's basis of credibility, actively search for new angles in interpreting a situation, and engage in the world around you in an attempt to become your own primary source.

"Democracy means government by discussion. If you're not in the discussion, you can't govern," said Crossley.

Crossley's discussion applied to generations beyond just the students at the university, which is part of what helped it achieve effectiveness. However, it holds a special place for the current student, as Saint Leo senior Kizzy Kinte recognized.

"I thought she was a really good speaker...our generation especially needed to hear about this because people sometimes just look at one source and think it's true," said Kinte.

"Be critical on what you read, and have a real opinion on it," said senior Nia Sticca.

Love Week

BY ALYSSA SCHUYLER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Love week began on Monday Feb. 21, and wrapped up on Friday Feb. 25. The week was an opportunity to live by the Saint Leo core values, have a little fun, and spread some love to everyone on campus. The week was supported by Saint Leo Student Government Executive Board.

"The goal of Love Week was to make the students feel more a part of our community," said junior Amanda Cassar.

Promoting the activities for Love Week was simple. The activities were posted on the large calendars in residence halls, multiple emails were sent out, and signs were posted around campus and on every floor of the residence halls. Love Week also became an official event on Facebook. There were invitations sent via Facebook and the event was made public so those who weren't officially invited could add Love Week to their events, and those who didn't create the event could even send out invitations to people who may not have gotten one. On the Love Week's Facebook event students could see what events were occurring related to Love Week, and also when and where they would take place.

"Facebook was a good tool to give people a reminder," said Cassar.

The week began with a showing of the movie "The Blindside" accompanied with free snacks. Tuesday there was a missionary speaker named Paul Devine in the Selby Auditorium. Also, Tuesday was free hug day. People wore t-shirts with the words "FREE HUGS" on them and roamed the school to spread some good will to other students.

"Free hug Day was a really cool experience because it really helped people open up. It gave us an excuse to go out of our way for others and hugging random students sparked some brief conversations and a lot of smiles. I found myself smiling all day and really getting into the love week spirit! This would definitely be something I would love to do again next year!" said freshman Dominique Rodriguez.

Wednesday was free cookie day in the Student Activities Building. Thursday evening was the softball home opener and accompanying the Lions softball team was free ice cream for those who attended. It was also staff appreciation day. Staff members also received free ice cream. Friday wrapped up the official Love Week with a performance by Colleen McCarron Nixon and a barbecue with free turkey legs, cotton candy, and funnel fries. The Campus Activities Board was also there to promote Spring Fling with free bubbles and other goodies for students who attended.

Amanda Cassar advertising Love Week
Photo by Alyssa Schuyler

"I think that this week was a great representation of the ultimate unwritten Saint Leo core value, which is love. In order to achieve all of the other Benedictine core values, I feel we need to show and feel a lot of love! It was a wonderful week; SGU did a great job!" said sophomore Mandy Altu.

The inspiration for Love Week came about from an Executive Board Meeting, more commonly called e-board. The members wanted the student body, faculty members and staff members to feel a community atmosphere on campus. Planning began after members of e-board decided that an event like this was necessary.

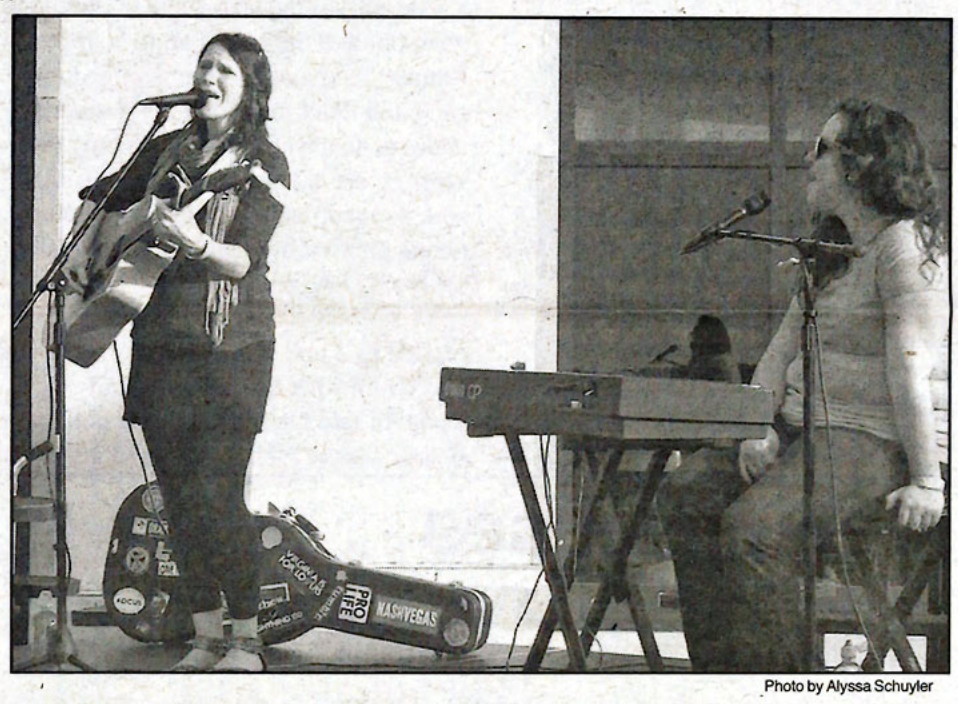


Photo by Alyssa Schuyler
Colleen McCarron Nixon singing with her sister Mary Rose McCarron

Love Week was made a possibility by many people. Everyone on campus contributed to the community feeling but those who were working behind the scenes were the Student Government Executive Board, Student Services, and Dinning Services.

Love Week was a first for Saint Leo this year.

" This E-board hopes that Love Week will be a yearly event. But we also hope that the next E-board addresses the issues of the students as they come to them," said Cassar.

The Executive Board hopes that every week is Love Week, and that the love that students, faculty, and staff have for each other can be spread throughout this campus.

School's Out for Spring!

BY MEAGHAN MINOGUE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

It's that time of year again! Pack your bathing suits and be prepared to spend a week at the beach. Spring break is finally here!

Students have been counting down the days until March 12, the start of spring break at Saint Leo. Most students will be heading to Daytona Beach for the week, while others are going home to colder weather. Either way, it is time off from school, and who doesn't love a vacation? Some other hot spots for break are Panama City, Miami, and Jacksonville.

"Last year for Spring Break my friends and I went to Daytona Beach. It was a lot of fun even though the weather was kind of cold. We hung out at the hotel mostly; it was a good time. This year I will be going to Panama City, and I am very excited about it!" said sophmore Heather Gick.

On the other hand, some student athletes will have to stay here for spring break. The boys lacrosse team will have practice and games over the break, as well as the baseball and softball teams.

"It's a little disappointing that we can't go anywhere for Spring break, but at least Saint Leo is a nice campus so I can hang out by the pool when I'm not playing. I'll be able to spend more time with my teammates and practicing lacrosse," said freshmen Robert Hutchinson. Spring break is the most favored break out of the year, for college students at least. College kids have made spring break famous. Things get pretty crazy, so being safe is important! Although it will be an exciting week, care should be taken while going out.

Always being with a friend, and not being alone is good because there have been crimes and incidents that have happened in the past while vacationing during spring break. It is also advised not to get into a car with anyone who has been drinking. Other than that, just be safe and have a great time!

Whether staying down South or heading up North, hopefully vacation will be relaxing and enjoyable. After weeks of being in school and studying for midterms, spring break should be a relief, and an unforgettable experience.

Arts & Entertainment

Artist Spotlight

Nameless Grace

BY BROOKE KING
Lions' Pride Entertainment Editor

Nameless Grace playing "Just Like Heaven." Photo courtesy of Nameless Grace

Surrounded by an over-aged crowd halfway drunk and a middle-aged judge that probably did not get their sound or appreciate their originality, Nameless Grace put on a show with a style of their own.

It is not the first time Nameless Grace has had to overcome adversity and struggling times. In late Oct. 2010, their drummer and long time friend Brad Ash passed away from a cycling collision induced coma. Lead guitarist Mat Rodgers said, "After Brad passed, it put things on a stand still for a week. Brad would have wanted us to continue, so Bob and I jumped back into the band shack and started practicing again." After a few shows and failed attempts to find an adequate drummer, the remaining members of Nameless Grace, Bob Jeffrey and Mat Rodgers, began to falter on ever finding a drummer to fit their style of music until they found Josh Thornton.

"I worked in a music store and Josh walked in one day to buy drum sticks and a metronome. I was instantly blown away by the fact that he practiced using a metronome. So, I gave him my number. He showed up to practice that week and that was Nov. 22. He had only been playing for six months," said Rodgers.

So, with their new drummer in tow, Nameless Grace set up for one of the more cause worthy events, Battle of the Bands at Wiregrass Mall to help benefit the the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The set started at 7:30 p.m. with a packed house at Brass Tap Bar. The opening number started out a little ruff, as the lead vocal microphone went out and the band had to start over. Rather than panic, Jeffery stopped the song and fixed the problem. "I wasn't about to do a whole song with only one vocal. I just did not see that happening, so I stopped," said Jeffrey of the microphone malfunction. In the middle of the set break, Rodgers true to his candid nature, pulled out his cell phone and replied to a text. As Jeffery's off the cuff asked him what he was doing, all Rodgers said back was, "I just got a text. It says donate." Though the judge was less than impressed with his stunt, Rodgers kept playing. As the end of the set drew to a close, Nameless Grace did a cover of "Just Like Heaven" with their own stylish spin. The set was wrapped up with a cleaver and very catchy original song "Saying Goodbye to Sharon." By far, the best song of the set was left for last. The guitar was spot on and the melodic and screaming chorus left everyone clapping and whistling at the end. As the night itself ended, the money donated was all the band truly cared about. Even though a bunch of teenage cover bands over passed their originality, for Nameless Grace the Battle of the Bands was never about getting famous or winning, but supporting a cause and performing before a crowd. "I wish we could have raised more money, but in the end I watched the playback and felt that overall we did a good job, "said Rodgers about the outcome of the charity event. While they did not win the Battle of the Bands, Nameless Grace has found their niche in music. With the help of their new bandmate Josh Thornton, they are ready for the next gig.

Nameless Grace is a mix of alternative and rock with edgy choruses and catchy lyrics. This local Dade City band is playing Plankfest Saturday March 5 at 1 p.m. When asked about what their band was all about Rodgers said, "We're not egotistical, but we do sing our songs in the shower." When hanging out with the band after the Wiregrass Event, it is clear that the band itself is a family of people that love to play music and are determined to do what it takes to get a label contract. A bunch of guys, throwing jokes around, while having a good time, and playing some rocking music is what Nameless Grace is all about.

To find more information on Nameless Grace and listen to their music, visit their facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Nameless-Grace/147933941895825.

New Releases

DVD

March 8th:

Jackass 3 (Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera)

Morning Glory (Harrison Ford, Rachel McAdams)

The Next Three Days (Russell Cowe, Elizabeth Banks)

Inside Job (Matt Damon)

March 15th:

The Fighter (Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale, Amy Adams)

Hereafter (Matt Damon, Cécile De France)

The Switch (Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman)

CD

March 8th:

Avril Lavigne
Goodbye Lullaby
RCA

Lupe Fiasco
Lasers
Atlantic

The High Kings
Memory Lane
Ard Ri Entertainment

March 15th:

Rise Against
Endgame
Geffen Records

Boxer Rebellion
Cold Still
Absentee Recordings

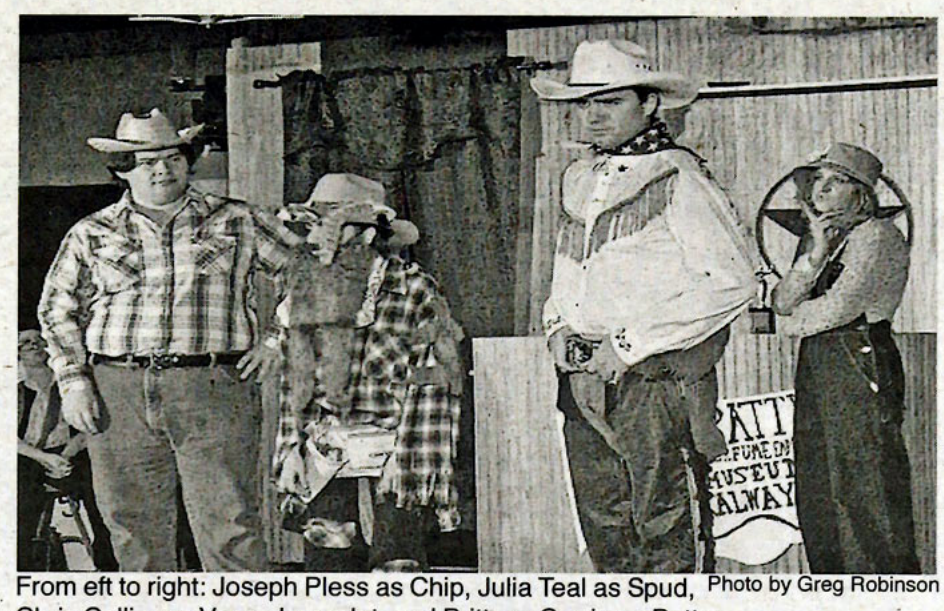
Editor's iPod Playlist

Featured Editor : Greg Robinson
Lions' Pride Multimedia Editor

1. "Lotus Flower"
   Radiohead
   The King of Limbs
2. "The Undoing"
   Interpol
   Interpol
3. "Goin' Home"
   Dan Auerbach
   Keep it Hid
4. "Triple Spiral"
   Bright Eyes
   The People's Key
5. "Kings Crossing"
   Elliott Smith
   From a Basement on the Hill
6. "Give Up the Ghost"
   Radiohead
   The King of Limbs
7. "Nikorette"
   Conor Oberst and the Mystic Valley Band
   Outer South
8. "Beggars"
   Thrice
   Beggars
9. "Where Did You Sleep Last Night"
   Nirvana
   MTV Unplugged
10. "The Rip"
    Portishead
    Third

Actors under attack: absurdity in *Horse Scents*

BY GREG ROBINSON
Lions' Pride Multimedia Editor



From eft to right: Joseph Pless as Chip, Julia Teal as Spud, Chris Collier as Vance Lancelot, and Brittney Currie as Patty. Photo by Greg Robinson

Popcorn flew, the audience cheered, and the villains taunted the armed theater patrons during the stage play Horse Scents. Running for four nights from Wednesday, Feb. 23rd to Saturday, Feb. 26th, this absurd western play kept the Marmion Center echoing with laughter each performance.

The play featured stereotypical characters, such as the pompous hero Vance Lancelot, played by Chris Collier. He spent much of the play preening himself and winking at those in the audience. The villains, Arnold Benedict and Avaricia Slime, played by Justin Paulauskis and Heather Galvin; were booed, hissed at, and pelted with popcorn.

The normally sparse Marmion Center was transformed by an elaborate wooden set, designed by director Dave McGinnis. The close attention to detail on the wooden set, along with clever lighting, gave a cheery, saloon-like ambiance to the entire production.

Nat. E' Light and the Blue Gills was the accompanying band and playing music before the performance.

Before the play, the audience was instructed to cheer the hero and boo the villains, as well as to sigh when the heroine sweet Roady (Brittany Ann Komon) appeared on the stage. Popcorn was passed out before each act and the actors found themselves dodging barrages of it. As people ran out of popcorn the paper bags became balled-up missiles, whizzing over the stage as the actors impeccably delivered their lines.

At certain points in the play audience members were given lines as extras, stunt doubles, and ancillary characters. Coupled with the audience participation in the form of booing, cheering, and popcorn throwing, Horse Scents created an interesting dynamic between the actors and audience, giving birth to a wholly original, unique, and incredibly fun performance. The director's note in the playbill said this about the audience participation:

"The audience doesn't quite get off with a free pass with this style of show. You have lines. You have blocking. If everything works out for all involved, you'll work as hard as we do tonight."

The talent of the actors was put on display, having to improvise and adjust according to the audience's vocal feedback. They didn't seem flustered though; rather, they seemed to feed of the energy from the crowd and produced more spontaneous and genuine performances.

Staged by the Saint Leo Dramaturgy Program and directed by Dave McGinnis, this play by J. Mick Dunna is a departure from the more serious fare of the past two semesters. Although the more dramatic plays from the past two semesters, Woyzeck and Rhinoceros, were by no means a let down, Horse Scents was a far more lighthearted piece and enjoyable for everyone.
To see video from the performance of Horse Scents, visit The Lions' Pride online at http://pride-online.net.

Spring Fling 2011

BY ALYSSA SCHUYLER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

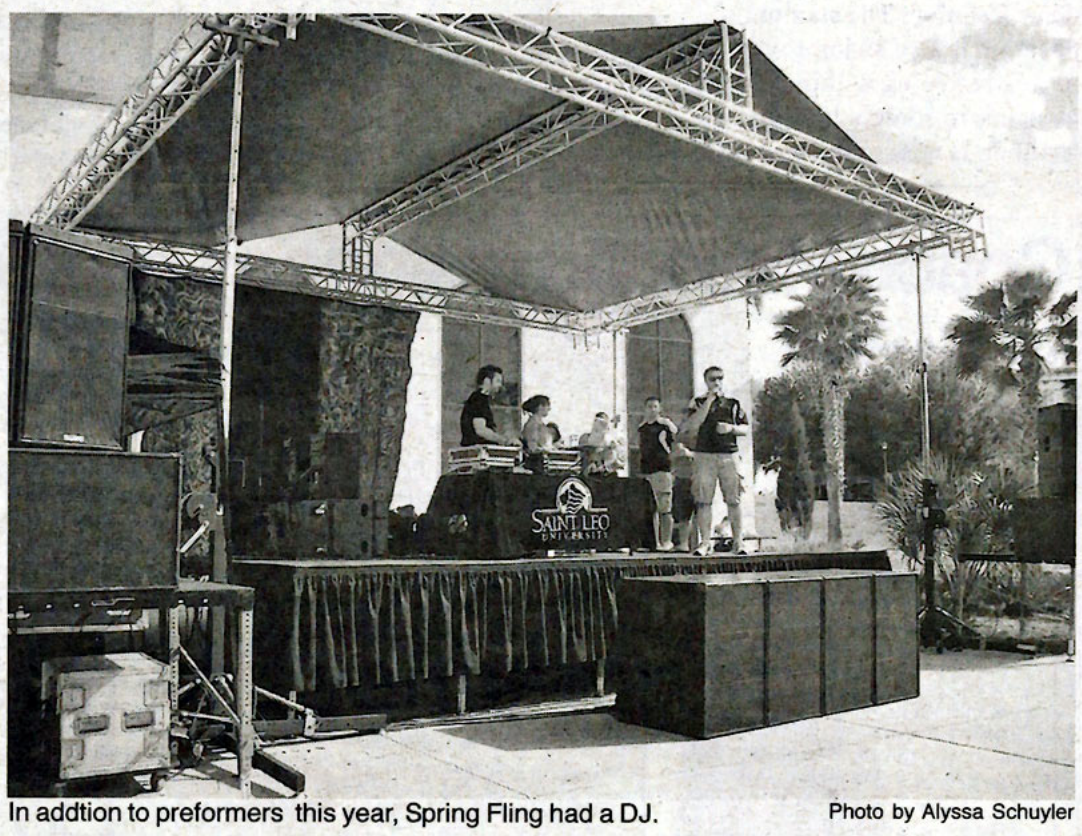
Spring Fling this year took place on Mar. 4, 5, and 6. It was advertised to be a whole weekend event, but due to weather conditions and flight cancellations, Friday's scheduled comedian Jen Kober could not attend. However, students can look forward to seeing her on campus in April.

Saturday's events began at noon with a DJ, foam pit, bongo ball, an obstacle course, and many booths where students could support on campus groups and enjoy free things such as kettle corn, dog tags, artistic spray paint art, and body and balloon art. Students could also buy food and treats to help support student organizations.

One popular station was the spray paint artists. There were two talented artists who created a scene on a card for students. They used spray cans and unconventional painting tools. The foam pit also seemed popular with most students. Bubbles filled a pit and students played in the foam. Bongo ball made its second appearance of the year and students made teams and loaded their launchers with Nerf balls to get the opposing team members out.

Students supported on campus organizations at booths by being able to throw a pie at members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in the face, buying a Popsicle to get relief from the heat or corn on the cob from Alpha Sigma Tau's Pi class, get an Asian soft drink from the Asian Cultural society, buy cake in a jar to benefit Sigma Sigma Sigma, and there was also a raffle held by Gamma Upsilon.

The carnival that started at 6 p.m. Saturday was full of entertainment. There were five rides, two games, and free food and drink. Also throughout the evening there were three performers. The performers were Amber Lynn Nicol, We Shot the Moon, and finally Natalie Stovall. The games and rides were free and students could enjoy as much as they wanted all night and win prizes from the games.



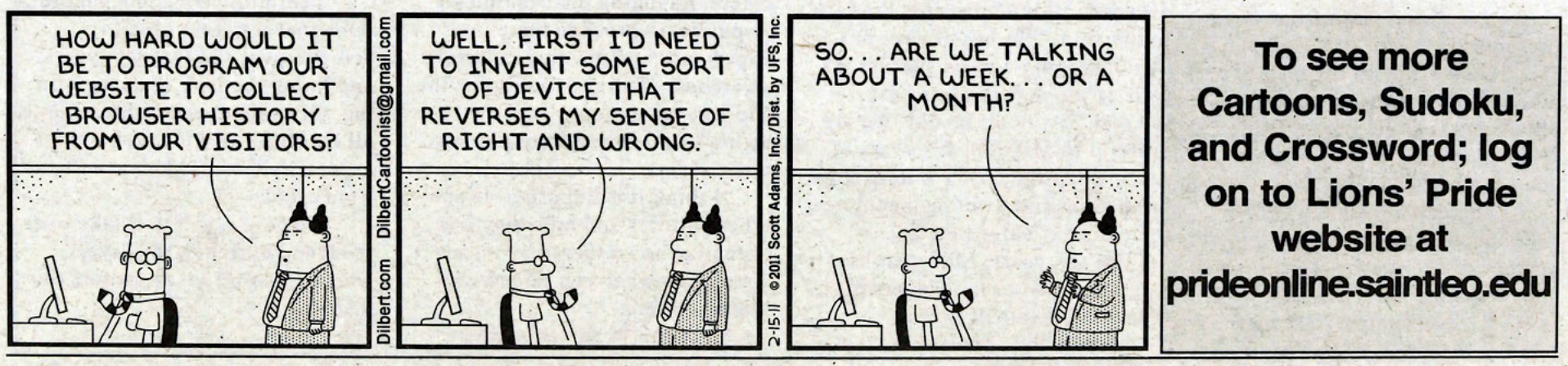
In addtion to preformers this year, Spring Fling had a DJ. Photo by Alyssa Schuyler

"My favorite part was the turkey legs. Oh, and I won a stuffed animal!" Said Freshman Stephen Williams.

"My favorite part of the event was the free stuff. I really feel like the money I put into this school is worth it if they give us extra stuff we technically already paid for at the events," said Junior Patricia Pothier.

On Sunday, students could go on a trip to participate in a game of paintball. The day's events wrapped up Spring Fling and now students can look forward to spring break beginning Mar. 12.

Dilbert
By Scott Adams



To see more Cartoons, Sudoku, and Crossword; log on to Lions' Pride website at prideonline.saintleo.edu

Sports

Lions christen new field – university softball stadium opens to "White Out"

BY CHAD WISE
Lions Pride Staff Writer

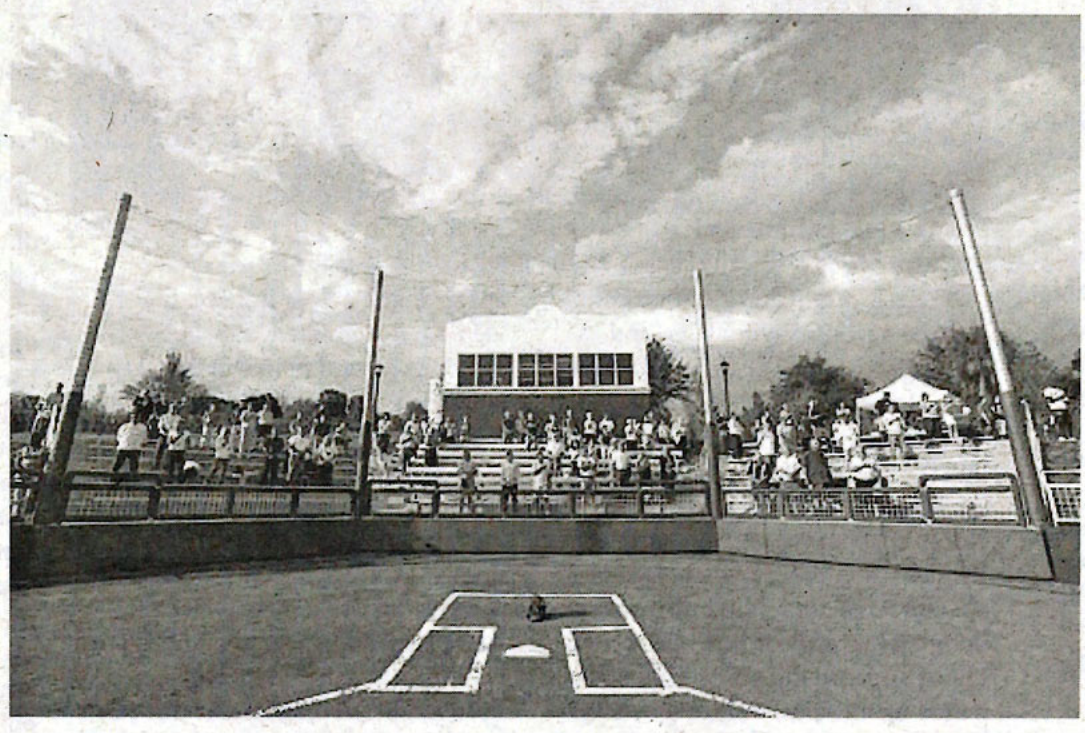
The newest completed addition to Saint Leo University's campus, the university softball stadium, held its first pair of games on Feb. 24; it was a pair of losses by the Lions to the Western Ontario Mustangs.

Having suffered the first 14 games of the new season's schedule on the road, it was a relished pleasure for the Lions to not only play at home, but to open a new home field as well. The crowd more than tripled the capacity of the old field, and witnessed the unveiling while mostly wearing white. The upgraded new stadium's space and amenities became apparent to the crowd before any of the opening proceedings.

A built-in sound system, a press box, and seating that did not require standing room were all signs of the new stadium's superiority to the previous manifestation. The stadium's location is also an improvement; instead of being within close distance to student housing, the stadium is next to the baseball field, tennis courts, and a new parking lot.

The evening started with a traditional blessing by Father Stephan before vice president of Business Affairs Frank Mezzanini threw the ceremonial first pitch to former softball All-American Denyve Duncan. As some on-hand were quick to point out, the pitch would have been a ball; it could not reach home plate without bouncing first.

In a somewhat fitting tribute, or coincidence to university softball stadium, the Space Shuttle Discovery launched from Cape Canaveral while the opening ceremonies were happening. Despite some cloud cover that threatened to damper the mood, the "flyover" could be seen by the naked eye.



Lion fans come support the first softball game in their new stadium Photo Courtsey of Mike Carlson

Junior Amber Martyn was thankful for the new accommodations, as well as the turn-out for the first home games of the season.

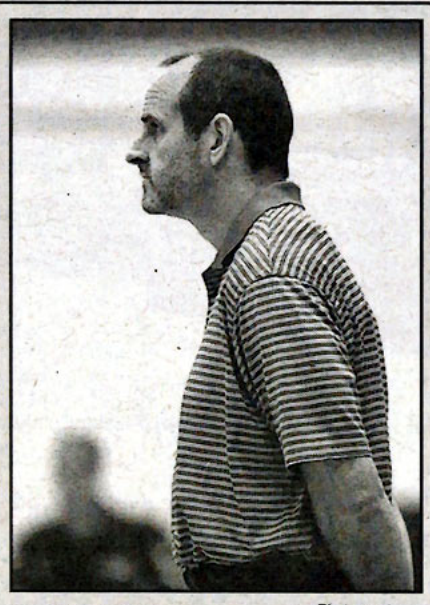
"It means a lot to know we, as student-athletes, are appreciated by our staff and peers," said Martyn. "The new field allows for a new beginning in which our team desperately needed."

Regardless of the result of the doubleheader, spirits were high by fans and players alike, and not just for the free ice cream provided by the Saint Leo Dining Services. Comparisons to the old "Little League Field" were made, while students and members of faculty all came out to support not only the softball team, but also to support Saint Leo's enthusiasm to improve University Campus.

With a new business building on the way and fresh plans for housing and other campus improvements coming soon, Saint Leo University students can sleep easy knowing that their school is not just sitting idly by while other schools are improving.

Coach Madagan resigns as head basketball coach

BY JESSICA PALL
Lions Pride Online Editor



Coach Madagan Photo courtesy of Mike Carlson

On February 21, Mike Madagan, head coach of the Saint Leo men's basketball team, announced his resignation, effective at the end of the season.

"I felt I was in the way of the success of the program." Madagan told the Lions' Pride. Madagan has served as head coach since 2001.

Madagan's resignation was announced before the last two games of the season. He finished his coaching career at Leo with a 73-87 loss against Eckerd on Feb. 23, and a 85-70 win against Barry on Feb. 26.

The men's basketball 2010-11 season is now finished and will resume their practices under a new coach, still to be determined.

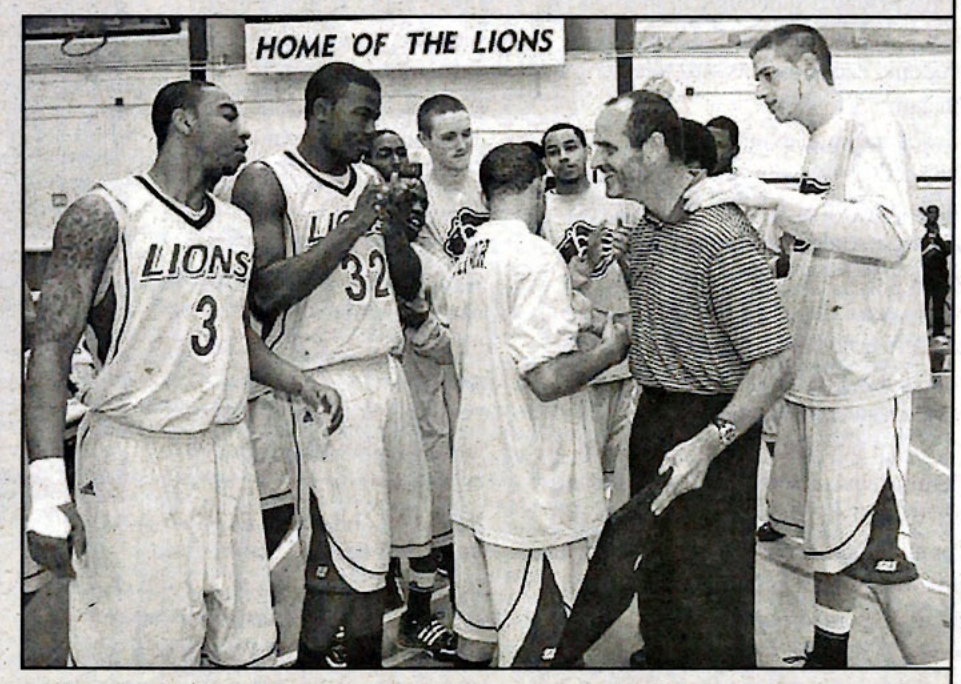
Here at Saint Leo University, Madagan has over 100 wins and his time has seen him recognize three freshman of the year and six all-conference selections within the Sunshine State Conference.

"Saint Leo provided my first assistant-coach basketball job and my first head coach basketball job," Madagan said.

Madagan came to the school in 1989 as an assistant under Mike Gillespie. Before becoming head coach in 2001, Madagan served as an assistant coach for rival DII Florida Southern College and DI University of South Florida basketball programs.

"Mike has been an integral part of our department for a decade," athletic director Fran Reidy said, "He has always put this university and its success, as well as the departments best interest first in all he did. We are grateful to Mike for his years of service and the positive impact he has had on many young men during their time at Saint Leo."

For ten years, Madagan has sought to mentor his players more than just basketball skills.



Madagan receives loud appreciation cheer Photo Courtesy of Mike Carlson

"I think the opportunity to play basketball is trivial in the opportunity to gain education," Madagan said.

Madagan brought his team on serve trips during his coaching career, including the Dominican Republic, to broaden their experience and develop cultural awareness. To raise funds for the trips, he used money that the men's team earned from playing other teams.

"I think it is important to see other cultures and how they live, to realize how others live and appreciate what you do have" Madagan said.

Madagan impacted many student-athletes during his time as head coach but programs are always changing and the Lions will continue to move forward with new leadership.

"I certainly envisioned more wins that we were able to achieve over the last few years, and know the lack of success in the win column was frustrating to all involved with the program, especially Coach Madagan," Reidy said.

The new coach will take over the team, currently16 players, which is losing seven seniors this year.